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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 6 Sep 50

SUBJECT Conditions in Tientsin

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NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. In recent months there has been some activity around Tientsin, which could be either guerrilla or bandit. Communist patrols have occasionally been ambushed and wiped out.
2. The Chinese in the city strongly resent the presence of Soviet advisers. Recently a block of fine houses on London Road was taken over and is now occupied by three hundred Soviet advisers. The residents were given four days to vacate their homes.
3. The Chinese in Tientsin also talk as if they resent the shipment of white flour to the north. They see this flour being loaded and believe it is going to Russia; in Tientsin only yellow flour can be bought. Government officials have announced that in exchange for the white flour the Chinese are receiving good lumber. The ordinary Chinese says, "Lumber is good only for coffins."
4. Constant parades are held, and each apartment house must supply a certain number of household servants to march. When one parader was asked what he was shouting for, he replied, "I don't know. The man says shout, so I shout." Another parader was asked if he really thought MAO Tse-tung was great, as he was shouting. "I don't know," he replied, "but at the end of the parade I got three pounds of flour."
5. The Communist police have attempted to set up an elaborate informers network among household servants. For instance, when a cook was sounded out to be the head spy in an apartment house, he evaded the responsibility by saying that he was not fit for the job, because he fainted whenever he got excited. Another servant got the post and proceeded to give the residents of the house advance notice of Communist plans. Another number-one boy has to report to the police the names of all guests at the residence where he works and what is discussed there. The boy has asked his employer to be sure not

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to deny ever having guests if questioned by the police or the boy would be in trouble.

6. Several Germans are acting as fronts for Chinese firms.

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